



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3D CORPS SUPPORT COMMAND
LSA ANACONDA (BALAD), IRAQ
APO AE 09391

AETV-SCG

21 November 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Daily Philosophy

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to SHARE my personal philosophy on life and leading. I believe the most effective way to care for people is to get to KNOW them. So, the focus of this written memo is to help you get to know me and have a better understanding of who I am and what is important in my life. Clearly, to be given the responsibility and the opportunity to lead Soldiers is at the top of the list; it is an honor and a privilege. First and foremost, I am very much like all of you: I'm a Soldier, a daughter, a granddaughter, a sister, and a friend. In these roles, it is very important to me that I am a person others can trust and depend upon. Two words describe how I try to live each day: **"STEADFAST LEADERSHIP."** As a leader, I will do everything within my power to ensure a positive climate and work environment where people come first and missions are always accomplished.

2. **"STEADFAST LEADERSHIP"** is what I demand from myself and I believe it is what we must allow each member within our organization the opportunity to demonstrate. My goal is to live the **"STEADFAST LEADERSHIP"** principles I address below. In doing so, I hope my actions and my example, not my words, will motivate others to adopt some or part of these principles and values for their own lives. These principles over many years have helped shape my character. Simply defined, I believe one's true character is "who you are when no one else is watching."

3. **"STEADFAST"** is an acronym and stands for: Soldiers, Training, Excellence, Attitude, Discipline, Family (and Friends), Accountability, Selfless service, and Teamwork. Below are some expressions of what I mean by **"STEADFAST"** and a little more about myself:

a. **Soldiers:** People are our most valuable resource. The ARMY is all about people, from service members to family members to our civilian partners. I consider all service members to be Soldiers, regardless of rank. I am a Soldier. To be a Soldier one must be able to both serve others and lead. Each of us, at any given moment, could find ourselves as the senior ranking person on the ground. Therefore, each of us must always be prepared (technically, emotionally, physically, spiritually) to take charge when in charge. We must never forget each of us were all younger and more junior yesterday; remember this when developing subordinates and setting standards. Lead by example. Demand the same from yourself as you would others. **"Coach, teach and mentor"** must be our watchwords for caring for each other and our families. Soldiers take care of each other and treat each other with dignity and respect.

b. **Training:** Everything we do is about training. Quality training is the ultimate display of genuinely caring for our Soldiers and their families. I strongly believe in leader development and certification training at all levels. We must train as we fight! While in the fight, we must continue to train. Training is also maintaining! Maintaining our equipment, our records, our health, our family

structure are essential to our readiness, our ability to deploy, and while deployed to WIN on the battlefield. We must plan, coordinate and conduct realistic, combined arms training. Training requires preparation, and preparation is a process, requiring individual and unit responsibility. Training is for ALL members of the organization, officer and enlisted and civilian. Physical fitness training must be battle focused and challenging, and must be conducted in a combat environment. We must push ourselves and set high, achievable goals, not just meet the minimum requirements.

c. **Excellence:** Know and live by high standards, both personally and professionally. We represent the military and the United States 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our actions must always reflect that we are a values-based, people-focused, and mission oriented organization. We must all “Talk the Walk and Walk the Talk.” We must make every effort to provide responsive, premier support to our supported units, including units in our own organization. We must treat others as we would want to be treated! Seize the initiative, go the extra distance, and be innovative in order to achieve the highest standard of excellence possible.

d. **Attitude:** The one thing in life we can control is our attitude. Our attitudes reflect our true character and how much we care about trying to “make a difference” and “make it happen.” Be proud of yourself, your unit, your organization, your Army, your country. When you see a problem, become part of the solution! “Be all you can be” but not at the expense of someone else. Know yourself, your strengths and weaknesses. Take time for self-development and reflection and education in order to turn weaknesses into strengths. Seek responsibility, not glory and power. Work diligently and selflessly to make the team successful and cohesive. Do not worry about who gets the credit. Maintain a positive perspective. Count your blessings and look at the cup as half full, not half-empty.

e. **Discipline:** When we exercise discipline in all aspects of our lives, we realize success. We are able to choose the harder right over the easier wrong, accept risk versus gambling, and we are able to push ourselves to limits we never thought possible. Strive to be physically, emotionally, and spiritually disciplined and balanced. Disciplined Soldiers reach and exceed the goals they set for themselves. Discipline is the major difference between a good organization and a great one! The greatest compliment we can receive is that we are a disciplined organization! Discipline is the final line between a safe and unsafe act. **Safety** begins with each of us. Risk assessments must be conducted properly and at all levels. We must all have on our “pay attention eyes and ears” and always look for ways to improve safety. Nothing is more important than a Soldier’s life! Watch out for each other and enforce a buddy system, both on and off duty.

f. **Family and Friends:** Whether single, divorced or married, we all have family. I am the third of four children and was born and raised most of my life in New York. My parents are retired; they are my best friends. My two grandparents played a huge role in my upbringing, with one set living right behind us for 38 years. My grandmothers both died in the last 5 years, one at 100 and the other at 88, both had huge impacts on my life. I have 8 nieces and nephews, but have adopted many of my friends’ children and enjoy the role of “Aunt and Great Aunt Becky.” My parents are raising one of my nephews, Joey, and I play a large role in his life. Children are wonderful human beings who provide a unique, and sometimes surprising, perspective for us! When I am not in field or deployed, it is very important for me to balance quality family time and work. I believe it is rewarding to get involved with the community,

school activities, and the church. Family Readiness Groups are really Unit Readiness Groups. Use your talents and participate in a positive way out of desire, not out of obligation. When deployed, we will greatly realize the benefits of healthy FRG's and must keep the forward foxhole connected with the family foxhole.

g. **Accountability:** Accountability begins with each individual member on the team. It encompasses both personal and professional standards: from your CIF hand receipt, family care plans, finances, to your supply, maintenance, readiness, budget, administrative and time management responsibilities. Hold yourself accountable for your own actions and accountable for the care and keeping of those entrusted under the leadership position you hold.

h. **Service:** Our business is all about duty, honor, country. None of us joined the military to become famous or be heroes. We joined to selflessly support and defend the constitution of the United States. The oath we have taken should be our moral and motivating compass for service--selfless service--to others. I believe true **LEADERSHIP** is reflected in our ability to **SERVE** others first. We serve each other, our fellow units, our families, our Army and our country.

i. **Teamwork:** Together Everyone Achieves More. The Chain of Command is "The Team." I believe in the power of numbers and two are always better than one. I focus on leader teams: Commander/CSM; Commander/1SG; OIC/NCOIC; Platoon Leader/Platoon Sergeant, and so on. Each Soldier is part of the chain of command and must clearly know who is in his or her chain of command. Communication and cooperation are critical to the effectiveness of the chain of command. Disagreement does not equal disrespect. I believe in quality counseling. Counseling is part of training and leader development and must be conducted by all leaders. Teamwork must extend horizontally across our organizations: Soldiers helping Soldiers of other units, families helping other families, units helping other units and military supporting our civilian community and activities. The Chain of Concern is also part of the team and I believe family members provide a critical link to our success.

4. Bottom line, I enjoy life, I enjoy photography, I love to laugh, I love to work hard and I love people! I look forward to serving our Nation with each and every one of you; learning from each other and developing a solid, caring, enthusiastic and winning TEAM!

5. ***"Sustaining the Line with STEADFAST Leadership!"***



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